



WASHINGTON COUNTY
2001 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE

Washington County is located in Western Maryland, bordered by Pennsylvania on the North and West Virginia to the South. It ranks ninth in size among the twenty-three counties, with 293,223 acres in land area. A growing business center, the 2001 population was 131,923.

Washington County is the heart of the fruit industry in Maryland. Apple and peach growers harvest over 26,000,000 pounds annually. Dairying is the principle livestock enterprise. Milk cows number 15,900 head, ranking second in the state. In addition to milk and fruit, the chief agricultural commodities are cereal grains.

A rich heritage of agricultural and historical significance adds to the attractions for tourists. Among these attractions is the Civil War site Antietam Battlefield located in the Sharpsburg area. Approximately, 350,000 visitors frequent these grounds annually. In addition, many state and private campgrounds and other recreational areas are accessible to visitors to the county.

WASHINGTON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Crop	Year	Unit	Acreage Harvested	Average Yield	Total Production
Corn for Grain	1999	Bu.	12,500	70.1	876,300
	2000		15,900	133.7	2,126,000
	2001		14,400	80.1	1,154,00
Corn for Silage	1999	Tons.	19,400	10.0	194,000
	2000		15,300	18.1	277,300
	2001				
Soybeans	1999	Bu.	6,400	25.7	164,700
	2000		7,100	41.0	291,000
	2001		7,700	31.0	239,000
Wheat	1999	Bu.	6,100	57.7	351,800
	2000		6,000	61.7	370,400
	2001		5,000	64.0	320,000
Hay	1999	Tons.	21,000	2.9	60,000
	2000		23,500	2.8	66,000
	2001				
Barley	1999	Bu.	4,700	77.0	362,100
	2000		4,300	67.3	289,400
	2001		4,700	74.4	349,700

Crop Production Rank among MD. Counties, 2001				Livestock Inventories Rank among MD. Counties, 1997 ¹	
Corn	13	Barley	7	Cattle	2
Wheat	10	Soybean	17	Hogs	1
Hay	3	s		Sheep	6
				Milk Cows	2 ⁵

WASHINGTON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

<i>Farm Numbers & Size</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
Number of Farms	906	809	768
Average Size (acres)	152	153	164
Land in Farms (acres)	137,529	123,932	126,292

<i>Livestock (Number on Farms)</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
Cattle Inventory Jan. 1	42,821	41,875	41,519
Hog Inventory Dec. 1	22,284	9,889	10,575
Sheep Inventory Jan. 1	1,266	1,897	1,451

<i>Average Number of Milk Cows</i>	1999	2000	2001
	16,400	15,900	

<i>Milk Production - 1,000 lbs.</i>	1999	2000	2001
	256,000	246,000	

<i>Value of Sales</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
	<i>-----Thousand Dollars-----</i>		
All Products	54,091	58,341	60,604
Crops	6,432	9,451	12,797
Livestock, Poultry and Poultry Products	47,659	48,890	47,807

¹ Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.
² Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
³ Unranked - Data not published.
⁴ Revised.
⁵ 2001.
* Acreage too small to publish.

MONTHLY WEATHER DATA - 2001

MONTH	AVERAGE TEMP. (F)	NORMAL 1961-1990	TOTAL RAINFALL (INCHES)	NORMAL 1961-1990
January	**00.0	28.3	0.00	2.42
February	**00.0	30.6	**0.00	2.55
March	**00.0	40.7	0.00	3.08
April	**00.0	50.4	**0.00	3.23
May	**00.0	60.2	**0.00	3.69
June	**00.0	68.5	**0.00	3.41
July	**00.0	73.0	**0.00	3.67
August	**00.0	71.6	**0.00	3.15
September	**00.0	64.5	**0.00	3.18
October	**00.0	52.8	**0.00	3.16
November	**00.0	43.4	**0.00	3.00
December	**00.0	33.3	**0.00	2.60
Annual	**00.0	51.4	**0.00	37.14

** Insufficient or partial data.

Number frost free days for 2001	**
Normal frost free days 1951-1980	182 <i>(1961-1990 Not available)</i>
Highest temperature	**
Lowest temperature	**

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**Compiled by the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service
and the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service.**